

THE COMMONWEALTH

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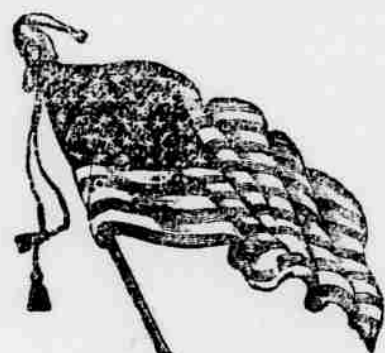
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Tuesday April 10 1917



The man who is polite to his wife will instinctively be polite to others and be accorded a like courtesy from them.

Lawyers tell us that ignorance of the law excuses no man, and then we are solemnly informed that the law making bodies of the country, state and national, in the past five years have passed no less than 62,550 laws. We'll plead guilty of the charge, whatever it is.

Stand By The Flag

Now that we have taken the plunge, there is but one thing for a loyal citizen of this country to do—stand firmly by his country, whether it be native or adopted. The man who does otherwise is not true either to himself or to the land that shelters, feeds and clothes him.

There were many who honestly thought we should not go to war with Germany. But the great majority of American people thought otherwise. So did the president and the Congress.

Each was clearly entitled to his individual opinion until such time as the matter was definitely settled one way or the other.

But with war actually in existence, with our armies hurrying into the field, with our navy making preparations to sweep the seas, with our young men rushing to the colors, there can be but one path for us to tread—absolute loyalty to our country.

Whatever our beliefs may have been in the past, our country now is at war, and we must support it with our every drop of blood and our every dollar of wealth.

Those who think that it will be simply a bluff at war—merely the assembling of an army that will drill for a few months and then go home—will be woefully mistaken.

The United States has been both loth and slow to draw the sword, but once drawn it will never be sheathed until victory is complete and our enemy is no longer able to do us harm.

Preparedness In Agriculture

Many there are that have gone wild with the war fever, and with hysterical enthusiasm are waving the flags of the country, pinning the national emblem on the lapel of every man they meet and crying to avenge the murder of the submarine frightfulness.

And many of the cities of the south are following the lead in this respect, all of which is classed as patriotic and in keeping with the spirit of the times. Perhaps it is, and none should gainsay the fervor that may be given vent by those who would defend home and country, but against this exhibition there is much to say, though in expressing our views does not imply that we are less patriotic, only that we like to give vent to our enthusiasm in a milder, soberer, way.

As we view the question of war it is the most serious subject in the world, outside of the hope, and belief, in salvation, and it is a mute question whether anyone has the right to treat it lightly, and certainly not to make a joke of it. When we read of a man coming from the trenches of Europe with the light of savagery in their eye, or the glinting stare of the maniac, it is time to go to our room and pray before we determine that an aggressive war is right.

The war into which the United States has just entered has no doubt been forced upon us, and there was no honorable means whereby the recent declaration could be avoided, but that is all the more reason why soberness of thought, a righteousness of purpose, and a determination to do only the right, should take hold of this entire people, and then, with prayer in our hearts, and a true love for our country, do those things that may seem best for our rulers to set us to do, regardless of what that may be.

Having satisfied ourselves that our duty lies in doing everything in our power to aid the country in its trouble the question then arises, WHAT PART CAN I TAKE THAT WILL BEST GIVE AID.

You can answer that question in a moment, and so can we. There are millions more men in this country than will ever be needed to fight, or that there will be equipment for in the next two or three years, and these men live in cities and large towns. Men who can be trained to make useful soldiers, but who would not make farmers in a life time.

It must therefore appeal to everyone that wherever there is a man who is capable of attending, and raising, a crop he should at once prepare to do his utmost to raising that crop so that the army that will be in training, if not at the front; the army that is at the front, doing our BIT, may be fed adequately for the service required of it. Likewise the navy that will be set to open the seas against the submarine menace, so that foodstuffs, armament and munitions may

be sent across the ocean to terminate the war the sooner, must be provided with sufficient nutritious food to make that arm of the service efficient.

If the United States draws its fighting recruits from the farmers of the country wherein will the next crop be raised, and who will feed the civilian as well as the army population?

Hitherto the south has been drawing upon the west to the extent of nearly a billion dollars worth of food stuffs annually. This will be cut off to help feed the army and navy, and it is certain the country will look to the south to also help feed the troops. Unless so special provision is made to keep the boys on the farms, and some federal order issued as to the requirements in crops, the kind of crop most suited to produce the best yields, according to location and soil, and to place the farming population under a governmental control in order to insure production there will be great want in the United States.

The duty and responsibility of supplying the fast need of foodstuffs and meat, as well as cotton for clothing and explosive manufacture will fall upon the farmers of the country, and it is upon him that the nation must rely for a vital work in meeting the impending crisis.

No more loyal and patriotic duty could be performed by any class than that of feeding and clothing the millions who will look to the farmer, probably from far off lands, for the meat and raiment, and even though these men who have volunteered to fight for their country in this country, training for eventualities, they are none the less our soldiers and must be supplied with every requirement of nourishing food to enable them to carry on their part of the work laid out for them by our military advisers.

Let us then, as far as possible, be done with talking of sending our men to the front, and rather encourage them in the lowlier, but none the less honorable, and patriotic, duty of cultivating every bit of available ground that will raise grain, vegetables, cattle, cotton and other products, and get them to work at once with planting and production.

There need be no fear of over production for the whole world today is scarce of foodstuffs, and the demand will grow greater as the greater number have to be fed by the government.

No more important question faces the country than this and the men and women of the community should not wait a minute in using their influence in making their relatives and friends, the farmers, see it with their own eyes, and appreciate that by staying at home, working faithfully to provide for the country's needs, they are doing a man's work, a patriotic duty, and an absolute necessity, if this war is to be won.

WEATHER REPORT FOR WEEK ENDING APRIL 8TH.

(By J. Y. Savage)

Highest temperature, April 2nd,	81 degrees
Lowest temperature, April 4th,	35 degrees
Rainfall, April 5th,	1.98 inches
Rainfall, April 8th,	.90 inches
Rainfall, total for the week	2.88 inches
Heavy Frost	April fourth

SUPERINTENDENT JENKINS

RE-ELECTED FOR NEXT YEAR

At the meeting of the school board last week, at which the following members were present: Messrs. J. L. Josey, G. Hoffman, J. A. Kitchin, A. L. Partridge, R. A. Phillips, and Stuart Smith, the superintendent of the Graded Schools of Scotland Neck, Mr. R. D. Jenkins, was elected for another year.

The board passed a resolution that no cattle be allowed to graze on the school campus hereafter.

Another matter of importance was discussed, that being the rapid increase in attendance in the primary grades, and it was determined that an additional teacher would be necessary in this department for next year.

The question of adding a commercial course to the High School curriculum, and also the domestic science course was discussed at length by the board and although no definite action was taken at this meeting, it was thought that one of these departments will be added for the year 1917-1918, and the other course the following year.

It is clear that the board is specially anxious to add features to the high school training that will fit the young men and women for their life's work and they feel that by giving a course in shorthand, typewriting and book-keeping during the last two or three years of the school life of the young men, and, perhaps, the girls also, it will equip them for business career.

For the young women it is essential that they be taught how to sew and cook, to make their clothes and keep their home and this department would be added at once if the necessary money to meet the increased cost was available.

MR. S. O. PURVIS RETURNS FROM HOSPITAL

Mr. Steve Purvis came in on yesterday afternoon train and drove out to his house after he greeted some of his town friends.

He looks right well though somewhat thin, and this is not surprising as he dropped seventeen pounds since he has been in the hospital.

When You Motor,

Motor Right

HENCE AN OVERLAND OR
WILLYS-KNIGHT

G. C. Weeks

THE PRICE OF ICE HAS BEEN RAISED

On account of the rise in price from factory to me, also the rise in labor and feed, prices are as follows:

1 to 5 lb. 1c per lb
5 to 100 lbs. 3-4c per lb.
Ice res. 500 lb. books \$3.50
Ice res. 1,000 lb. book 6.50
1,000 pounds fountain 5.00
Blocks 1.15

WOMMACK ICE CO.
Scotland Neck N. C.

THE MOST FAMOUS CHEF

Could not prepare more appetizing dishes than you will find right here at the

NEW YORK CAFE

We cater especially to particular people—those who can appreciate the best of foods and the best of cooking. We satisfy big appetites at small expense. And we are always ready to give quick and courteous service.

ICE CREAM EVERY DAY

SODA FOUNTAIN ALL

DRINKS

BILL COTTAS
PROPRIETOR

THE DIFFERENCE

The difference between a satisfied customer is about as great as the difference between the GROCERIES sold at my store and the inferior kind.

Your money is good, so call one-seven-four, where you will get full value for it.

Everything to be had in a first class FANCY GROCERY STORE.

Your orders always appreciated.

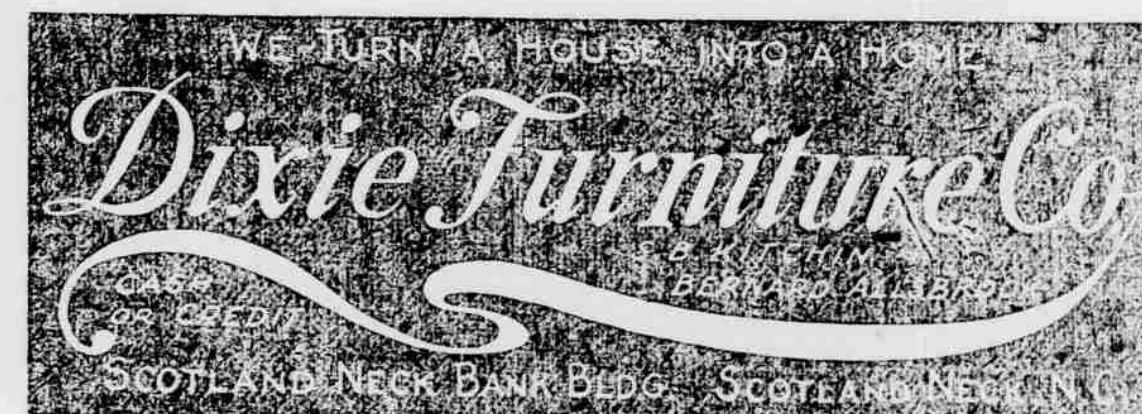
CLEE VAUGHAN

Largest Retail Grocery Business in Halifax County



WE can supply you with furniture as costly as you may desire but we specialize on grades that have all of the charm of the more expensive and are still most reasonable in price.

AFTER you pass a certain point in the price of furniture you are paying for your own satisfaction only. We know where that point is and when you come to us you benefit by our experience.



FIRST, "PAINT." PAINTING BEAUTIFIES YOUR SURROUNDINGS AND SAVES YOUR BUILDINGS FROM DILAPIDATION AND DECAY. IT EVEN MAKES YOUR "LAND" MORE VALUABLE.

SECOND, USE OUR PAINTS, THEY DON'T "SCALE" OR FADE.

THIRD, IT COSTS YOU NO MORE TO BUY OUR GOOD PAINTS THAN TO BUY INFERIOR GRADES.

OUR PAINTS ARE THE BEST; THEY STAND THE TEST.

Josey Hardware Co.

PIONEER HARDWARE DEALERS

SCOTLAND NECK,

NORTH CAROLINA